had been approved by the Planning Commission for modernisation and labour rationalisation schemes of NTC;

Deployment of RPCF, BSF, etc. in States

305. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the strength of CRPF, BSF and Army personnel stationed in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat during the last three years to control the law and order situation in the States;

(b) what is the number of CRPF, BSF and Army personnel injured and killed on duty in connection with clashes during the same period;

(c) what is the number of civilians injured or killed by the CRPF, BSF and the Army in these clashes; and

(d) what is the amount of compensation given in each case to the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Law and order is the responsibility of the State Govt. and the Army and para-military forces are deployed on request by the State Govt. concerned for assisting the State Police in meeting law and order situations. It will not be in public interest to disclose the strength of Army/BSF/CRPF deployed in these States during the last three years.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The Army/BSF/CRPF act with utmost caution and resort to firing during encounters with suspected terrorists or during clashes created by anti-social elements and miscreants only in self-defence. The question of their killing any innocent person does not therefore arise.

Killing of Tamilians in Sri Lanka

306. SHRI F.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civilian Tamils killed/injured in Sri Lanka during the last three months;

(b) the total number of refugees who arrived in India from Sri Lanka during the same period;

(c) whether any talks were held between the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka recently with a view to finding a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI (K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) There are no precise figures but it is estimated that in the military operations from May 26 over 650 Tamil civilians were killed and a large number injured.

(b) From January to May 87, 284 refugees had come into India. In June 87, 1882 refugees arrived in India.

(c) and (d) Since June, 87 talks have been renewed between the Governments of India and Sri Lanka. These talks are still continuing.

Communal Riots

307. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of incidents of communal disturbances that took place during the last two months in various States;

(b) what are the causes of the riots in Delhi, Meerut and its nearby areas and in Gujarat;

(c) what is the number of people killed, injured and missing in these riots/disturbances;

(d) what is the total value of properties damaged/looted a a result thereof;

(e) what is the number of persons involved in these riots/disturbances apprehended during the same period; and

(f) what kind of compensation has been given so far to the riots victims and for their rehabilitation and steps have been taken by Government to prevent such riots/disturbances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): As per available information, the position in respect of parts (a) to (f) of the question is as under:—

(a) 98 communal incidents took place in the country from 15th May, 1987 to 23rd July, 1987.

(b) The communal incidents/riots are the handiwork of communal antisocial elements.

(c) In major communal incidents that took place in Delhi, Meerut and Gujarat, 162 persons were killed and 351 persons were injured. No data about the missing persons has been maintained.

(d) Property worth Rs. 342.92 lakhs (approximately) has been damaged.

(e) In the major incidents of communal violence in Delhi, Meerut and Baroda, 657, 2870 and 485 persons respectively were arrested.

(f) In addition to distribution of assential commodities, medical relief, food for animals and such like measures. cash compensation to the next of kin of the deceased, financial compensation to those injured and the relief and rehabilitation assistance, concessional loans have been provided.

As regards steps taken to prevent such riots/disturbances, it may be stated that even though the primary responsibility of maintenance of peace rests with the State Governments, the Central Government have never been found wanting in the matter of providing assistance to the State Governments in the shape of para-military forces and equipments in restoring peace and communal harmony. The Central Government have also been cautioning and alerting the State Governments to keep a very close watch on communal, fundamentalist and antisocial elements.

Shri P. Chidambaram alongwith Smt. Mohsina Kidwai and take the Home Minister and The Prime Minister visited the riot affected areas of Meerut and held detailed discussions with the Chief Minister and other senior officials in Meerut and gave instructions for speedy relief and rehabilitation measures. Similarly Shri P. Chidambaram visited Gujarat and held detailed discussions with the State authorities with a view to maintaining peace and providing speedy relief measures to the victims of the communal riots. The Home Minister had also invited the leaders of opposition so as to take benefit of their advice and all present in the meeting agreed to issue an unanimous appeal for maintaining communal harmony during the celebration of Id.

It may also not be out of place to mention that as back as October, 1980, detailed guidelines were first circulated to the various State Governments/UTs for maintaining communal harmony and public order. Thereafter in 1985, these guidelines were given a

fresh look and were revised and re-circulated to all the State Governments/UTs in July, 1985. Among other things these guidelines envisage strengthening of intelligence gathering system, action under law against those indulging in inflamatory writings, need for regulating the procedure for allowing religious processions on the occasion of major festivals to ensure that there is no provocation or other cause for communal violence; the need to regulate emergence of unauthorised places of worship on public places etc; the need to deal effectively with the use of loud-speakers in places of worship and the need for speedy investigation of cases registered in connection with the communal violence through Special Courts/Earmarked Courts. The Home Minister in particular addressed all the State Governments/UTs in October 1986, emphasising direct responsibility of the district, civil and police officials in maintaining communal harmony. Again on 30th December, 1986, the State Governments/UTs were issued instructions on how to control and regulate religious processions.

Incidents of firing in South Delhi

308. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) precisely at what time did the Police Control Room receive a telephonic message about the series of incidents of firing at various places in South Delhi on the 12th June 1987;

(b) what are the details of the messages received;

(c) whether the car numbers were also given on the phone;

(d) how long did it take to organise 'Operation Blackrose';

(e) whether Kalkaji Police Station refused to receive a complaint in person saying that the Greater Kailash Part-I did not come in their Jurisdiction;

(f) whether another police-van stationed in Greater Kailash Part-I also refused to help saying that they were performing some other duty;

(g) if so what are the details thereof; and

(h) whether any steps have been taken to improve the functioning of the police on the basis of any investigation made into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The precise time and nature of various messages received at the Police Control Room about the incidents of firing on the 13th June, 1987 are indicated in the statement attached. (See below)

(c) Some numbers were conveyed, but they were not found to be correct.

(d) It took 9 minutes to implement the red alert and convergence schemes.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) No such incident has come to the notice of the Delhi Police.

(h) The Police Control Room vehicles have been increased to 165 round-the-clock. 100 pickets armed with automatic weapons and wireless sets have been posted at strategic points in the city. In order to ensure better communication from the public, some more telephone numbers in the Control Room have